

December 5, 2000

TO: Members of the MAG Transportation Review Committee

FROM: Fred Carpenter, Chairman, Wickenburg

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Tuesday, December 12, 2000 - 10:00 a.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

The next meeting of the MAG Transportation Review Committee (TRC) will be held at the time and place noted above. **Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.** If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Eric Anderson or Stuart Boggs at (602) 254-6300.

Please be advised that under procedures adopted by the MAG Regional Council on June 26, 1996, all MAG committees need to have a quorum in order to conduct business. A quorum is a simple majority of the membership or nine people for the MAG TRC. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please make arrangements for a proxy from your jurisdiction to represent you.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

	<u>COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Approval of Minutes of October 31, 2000 and November 21, 2000</u>	2. Approval of minutes October 31, 2000 and November 21, 2000.
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u>	3. For information.
An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Committee. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments.	

4. Transportation Management Report

Recent transportation planning activities and upcoming agenda items for the MAG Management Committee will be reviewed.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Committee members can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information.

CONSENT AGENDA

*6. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Strategic Plan Update

_____ In September 1999, the MAG ITS Committee launched a project to update the region's ITS Strategic Plan, first developed in 1995. This project was considered a high priority for the region because of rapid ITS developments in the MAG region and at the national level.

The project has been successfully completed with the production of the Draft Final Report. Nine Technical Memorandums, with approximately 400 pages of information, were produced during the course of the project. These served as the basis for the final report. The project consultant team was led by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. with Cambridge Systematics and RH & Associates also in the team. A Regional ITS Stakeholder Group was established, with full participation of the MAG ITS Committee, to provide oversight to the project. This group was chaired by the MAG ITS Committee chair. The Group met a total of 13 times and spent approximately 300 man-hours in project meetings and many more hours reviewing documents. Project meetings were open to the public and were held in conjunction with monthly ITS meetings. Interim documents were made

*6. For information, discussion and recommendation that the ITS Strategic Plan Update be approved.

available to the public via the MAG website. The final report updated plan documents existing and planned ITS systems and provides a “roadmap” for addressing regional needs through future ITS implementation. Attachment One is an Executive Summary of this report.

The Draft Final Report has been reviewed and approved by the ITS Committee. A brief presentation on the project results will be made the consultant.

ITEMS TO BE HEARD

7. Report on the MAG Freeway Program

MAG Freeway Program Management will address issues related to the Freeway Life Cycle Program. The status of the FY 2001-2007 Life Cycle Program will be reviewed.

7. For information.

8. Progress on the Regional Transportation Plan Update

Following the approval of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Concept Paper by the Regional Council on July 26, 2000, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was published for consultant services to support development of a new Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). After an extensive review of the proposals received by MAG a recommendation was forwarded to the Transportation Review Committee, the Transportation Subcommittee, and the MAG Regional Council that URS Corporation be retained to assist in the development of the Regional Transportation Plan. At its meeting of November 1, 2000, the MAG Regional Council did vote to authorize entering into a contract for consultant services with URS Corporation for development of Phase I of the Regional Transportation Plan.

8. For information and discussion.

A contract was subsequently signed with

URS Corporation on November 22, 2000. A notice to proceed has been issued to the consultant. The project is now in its initial phase with planning for expert panel forums to identify macro issues affecting development and future transportation needs underway.

The plan when complete will document existing and future regional transportation needs and provide a policy framework for addressing regional needs through future transportation investments.

9. Loop 303 Alignment

Staff will provide an update on the traffic forecasts for the Loop 303 study. This update will include another alternative alignment that represents the 1985 regional freeway plan and the study area boundaries were expanded for all alternatives to include northern Scottsdale. The relative travel impacts of all alternatives will be discussed as well as a brief overview of other major issues. Further information is attached in Attachment Two.

10. Park & Ride Lot Selection Study

An Agency Forum for the MAG Park and Ride Site Selection project was held on December 1, 2000 to review draft technical analyses of alternative sites as well as recommendations and cost estimates for twenty new park and ride lots across the region. Draft recommendations for programming and the draft final project report will be reviewed at a combined Agency Forum / Public Meeting to be held December 11, 2000, before presentation to the TRC on December 12. The recommendations for programming of near term lots are expected to be carried forward into the annual MAG programming process planned for January, and will not require MAG action until then. The draft final

9. For information, discussion and recommendation of the Lone Mountain Alignment as the preferred alternative and that it would be constructed as a limited access parkway with access only at major arterial intersections and sufficient right-of-way would be purchased for a fully controlled access facility. In addition, the New River Alignment would be designated for further study in the Regional Plan.

10. For information and possible action to recommend approval of the draft final project report and project recommendations for twenty new park and ride lots for addition to the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan, subject to conformity analysis.

report and its recommendations are on the agenda for addition to the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan, subject to conformity analysis. You may wish to also refer to materials mailed to you separately for the December 11, 2000 Park and Ride Agency Forum. Complete copies of project reports are available upon request. Please note that copies of project materials are also available on the MAG website, located at www.mag.maricopa.gov, under "News and Events".

11. Review of MAG Federal Funds Projections for the FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Existing projections of MAG federal funds used in developing the FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program are based on federal estimates released shortly after passage of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), in 1998. These projections are regarded as being too conservative and members will review the assumptions underlying the projections. Possible changes for projecting future MAG federal funds could occur due to the following factors: (1) Future growth in the base apportionments; (2) Variations in Revenue Aligned Budget Authority (RABA); (3) Starting in FY 2004, possible increases in apportionments, due to re-authorization of TEA-21; (4) Possible fluctuations in expected obligation authority rates; and (5) the use of lower deflation factors. A final factor to consider is that small amounts of MAG Surface Transportation Program funds which, since 1996, have been almost exclusively targeted for completing the Regional Freeway System (RFS), may be available for MAG agencies to program on non-RFS projects. Further information will be provided before the meeting.

11. For information and discussion.

12. Cooperatively Developed
MAG/ADOT/RPTA Project Rankings for
State Transportation Projects

On October 23, 2000, the Resource Allocation Advisory Committee (RAAC) endorsed an estimate of ADOT discretionary funds for the MAG region for FY 2006, of which approximately \$152 million are available for programming. Additional funds of approximately \$45.75 million in years 2001 through 2005 are also available for programming due to increased Revenue Aligned Budget Authority (RABA) revenue.

Following a stakeholders meeting on August 1, 2000 at which ADOT presented a draft list of potential projects. MAG, RPTA and ADOT staff met to prioritize project requests for FY 2001 through 2006 for the available funds, as shown on the attached list. The list includes local project requests on the State highway system, ADOT project proposals, and all unprogrammed projects adopted by the MAG Regional Council for completion by 2007. Please refer to Attachment Three.

13. HOV Study Presentation

MAG and ADOT have been jointly conducting a study (Value Lane Study) to update the regions's HOV plan and study value lanes. The consultant, Jon Green from the Parsons Transportation Group, will present the recommended HOV plan. This plan recommends adding HOV lanes on the Pima Freeway, the Price Freeway, SR-51, I-10 and I-17 by 2020 and considering adding HOV lanes to all Freeways in the MAG urban area in the long term. Graphics are in Attachment Four that illustrate the current HOV Plan, the proposed long term HOV Plan, and HOV lanes that are proposed to be constructed prior to 2020.

12. For information and discussion and possible action.

13. For information, discussion and recommendation of the Proposed HOV Plan.

14. Value Lane Study

As mentioned in the above agenda item, MAG and ADOT have been jointly conducting the Value Lane Study to update the regions's HOV plan and study value lanes. In this agenda item the consultant, Jon Green from the Parsons Transportation Group, will present findings about value lanes with respect to the MAG area. A fact sheet that describes value lanes is Attachment Five.

14. For information and discussion.

15. Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled TRC meeting is Tuesday, January 23, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Office, Saguaro Room.

15. For information.